

Appl. No. 09/674,648
Amdt. dated July 12, 2006
Reply to Office action of March 27, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for the manufacture of a cam shaft from a tube, the cam shaft having bearer rings attached thereto, the method comprising the following steps:

placing bearer rings in correspondence with prospective locations of hollow cams on said cam shaft, each of the bearer rings having an outer surface and an inner surface, the radial thickness between the outer and inner surfaces being equal completely around the tube, and the necessary hardness, strength and wear resistance, and being formed in a separate method;

upsetting regions by kneading, swaging, or stretching that lie at the ends of the tube outside the regions in which the cams are seated so as to be increased in thickness ~~for forming different~~ to form drive or control functional elements;

placing the tube and the bearer rings in a high internal pressure forming tool;
applying axial forces to the ends of the tube, ~~and~~ while applying a medium under a high internal pressure to the tube, whereby the tube is expanded in defined regions to form the hollow cams from the material of the tube and whereby the bearer rings are attached to the hollow tube cams in a frictional and interlocking manner by expansion of the tube.

Claims 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, characterized in that between the cam shaft ends in a step prior to internal high pressure forming bearing faces and the eventual region where the cams are to be seated, are produced by round kneading and by reducing the diameter in this part to the desired size.

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Claim 4 (currently amended): The method as set forth in claim 1 ~~or in claim 2~~, characterized in that between the cams bearing faces are produced by internal high pressure forming by expanding the tube.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method as set forth in claim 1, characterized in that the bearer rings are hardened in a known manner prior to being placed in the internal high-pressure forming tool.

Claims 6 - 18 (canceled)